GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1230
ANSWERED ON:27.10.2008
VILLAGE GRAIN BANKS SCHEME
Shukla Smt. Karuna;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is running Village Grain Banks Scheme for the people living below the poverty line in the areas where there is a chronic shortage of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States where the said scheme is already being implemented alongwith the reasons for not implementing the scheme in other States;and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for implementation of the said scheme in all the States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a),(b),(c)&(d): The Government is implementing the Village Grain Bank scheme in chronically food scarce and vulnerable areas for all willing Below Poverty Line/Antyodaya Anna Yojana families to provide safeguard against starvation during the period of natural calamity or during lean season.So far 14,683 Village Grain Banks have been sanctioned by the Department of Food and Public Distribution in 20 States. A statement showing the number of Village Grain Banks sanctioned is annexed. Rest of the States/Union Territories have yet not implemented the Village Grain Banks Scheme.12 States/Union Territories have informed that they are not interested in setting up of Village Grain Banks in their States.

Government has been pursuing with the States/Union Territories Governments for setting up of more Village Grain Banks,and proposals have been requested from them.